

## **OUTCOMES PRODUCED**

- 1. In 1979 we reported a study in which 10 experimental and 9 control elementary schools were involved. The results included:
  - a. Vandalism costs were reduced an average of 57%
  - b. Student disruptions decreased significantly
  - c. The rates of praise by teachers increased significantly
- 2. This encouraged us to do another project involving 18 elementary and middle schools that was reported in 1983. The results included:
  - a. Vandalism costs were reduced an average of 78.5% while control schools experienced annual average increases of 35% to 56%
  - b. Student disruptions were decreased significantly
  - c. The rates of praise by teachers increased significantly
  - d. Fewer discipline problems, greater cooperation, and more positive feelings among students and staff were reported to outside evaluator
- 3. We then tried the strategies in the early 1990's in a high school setting to reduce dropout rates (1993). The following results were obtained:
  - a. The percentage of students working on their assigned activities increase from a range of 8% to 35% to a range of 70% to 100%
  - b. Dropout rates for at-risk students decreased from the typical 50% to 80% for similar at-risk students (poor, urban, minority, frequently absent, and well below grade level) to slightly below the district's average dropout rate of 33%
  - c. Suspensions decreased by 35.5%
  - d. Rates of approving comments by teachers increased, while their disapproving comments decreased
- 4. We also researched and identified factors that contribute to antisocial behaviors (1987, 2000)

## **REFERENCES**

- Mayer, G. R., & Butterworth, T. (1979). A preventive approach to school violence and vandalism: An experimental study. *Personnel and Guidance Journal*, *57*, 436-441.
- Mayer, G. R., Butterworth, T., Nafpaktitis, M., & Sulzer-Azaroff, B. (1983). Preventing school vandalism and improving discipline: A three-year study. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 16, 355-369.
- Mayer, G. R., Mitchell, L., Clementi, T., Clement-Robertson, E., Myatt, R., & Bullara, D. T. (1993). A dropout prevention program for at-risk high school students: Emphasizing consulting to promote positive classroom climates. *Education and Treatment of Children*, 16, 135-146.
- Mayer, G. R., Nafpaktitis, M., Butterworth, t., & Holloingsworth, P. (1987). A search for the elusive setting events of school vandalism: A correlational study. *Education and Treatment of Children*, 10, 259-270.
- Mayer, G. R. (2001). Antisocial behavior: Its causes and prevention in our schools. <u>Education</u> and <u>Treatment of Children, 24 (4), 414-429</u>.